

Appl. No.: 10/008,060
Amdt. Dated: 1/29/04
Reply to Office Action of: 12/1/03

Amendments to the Claims:

Please replace all prior claims versions and listings with the following:

claims 1- 11. (withdrawn)

claim 12. (canceled)

13. (previously presented) The method of claim 19 wherein the first guide and the second guide are located adjacent the catalyst substrate.

14. (previously presented) The method of claim 19, further comprising rotating the first guide relative to the second guide.

15. (previously presented amended) The method of claim 19 wherein the cutting filament is disposed about an open path that includes a path section extending between the first guide and the second guide.

16. (previously presented) The method of claim 19 wherein the cutting filament is disposed about a closed path that includes a path section extending between the first guide and the second guide.

17. (previously presented) The method of claim 19 wherein the longitudinal separation and radial spacing of the guides are controlled to form a shaped face on the catalyst substrate which is concentric with the longitudinal axis thereof.

--18. (currently amended) A method for shaping an end face of a catalyst substrate having a longitudinal axis into a conical or frusto-conical shape which comprises:
rotating first and second guides about the longitudinal axis of the catalyst substrate while a cutting filament extends between the guides; and
controlling the longitudinal separation and radial spacing of the guides so that the cutting filament is inclined relative to the longitudinal axis of the catalyst substrate and intersects the said axis, and wherein The method of claim 19 wherein

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the longitudinal separation and radial spacing of the guides are controlled to form a shaped face on the catalyst substrate which is non-concentric with the longitudinal axis thereof.--

19. (previously presented) A method for shaping an end face of a catalyst substrate having a longitudinal axis into a conical or frusto-conical shape which comprises:

rotating first and second guides about the longitudinal axis of the catalyst substrate while a cutting filament extends between the guides; and

controlling the longitudinal separation and radial spacing of the guides so that the cutting filament is inclined relative to the longitudinal axis of the catalyst substrate and intersects the said axis.--